

Claims

1. A method of monitoring and/or modulating disease-associated activatory processes comprising determining and/or influencing the amount and/or activity of caspase-10 or caspase-10 isoforms in a cell or an organism, wherein the activatory processes are triggered by non-apoptosis signals emanating from death receptors and/or non-apoptosis signals emanating from non-death receptor members of the TNF receptor family.
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2. The method of claim 1 wherein the activatory processes are triggered by receptor-crosslinking.
- 15 3. The method of claim 1 or 2, wherein the activatory processes are triggered by non-apoptosis signals emanating from death receptors, particularly TRAIL-R1, TRAIL-R2, CD95, TNF-K1 (pSS TNF-R), TRAMD, DR6 or combinations thereof.
- 20 4. The method of claims 1 or 2, wherein the activatory processes are triggered by signals emanating from non-death receptor members of the TNF receptor family and/or members of the TLR receptor family.
5. The method of any one of claims 1 to 4, wherein the disease is selected from hyperproliferative, inflammatory and auto-immune diseases.
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6. The method of claim 5, wherein the disease is an inflammatory disease selected from skin inflammatory diseases and septic shock.
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7. The method of claim 5, wherein the disease is a hyperproliferative disease selected from tumors.

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8. The method of claim 5, wherein the disease is an auto-immune disease.
9. The method of any one of claims 1 to 8 comprising monitoring the presence, amount, localization and/or activity of caspase-10 or caspase-10 isoforms in a sample.
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10. The method of claim 9, wherein caspase-10 or caspase-10 isoforms are determined on the nucleic acid level.
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11. The method of claim 9, wherein caspase-10 or caspase-10 isoforms are determined on the protein level.
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12. The method of any one of claims 1 to 8 comprising modulating the amount and/or activity of caspase-10 or caspase-10 isoforms in a cell or an organism.
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13. The method of claim 12, wherein the amount and/or activity of caspase-10 or caspase-10 isoforms is modulated on the nucleic acid level.
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14. The method of claim 12, wherein the amount and/or activity of caspase-10 or caspase-10 isoforms is modulated on the protein level.
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15. A method of identifying and/or characterizing compounds for the modulation of disease-associated activatory processes comprising determining if a test compound is capable of influencing the activity of caspase-10 or caspase-10 isoforms, wherein the activatory processes are triggered by non-apoptosis signals emanating from death receptors and/or non-apoptosis signals emanating from non-death receptor members of the TNF receptor family.
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